## THE EMERGING FIELD OF NATIONAL SECURITY

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NE of the most striking developments in post-World War II social science research has been the emergence of an area of inquiry commonly called national security affairs. The impetus for this development can be ascribed primarily to two major changes in the international environment: the atmosphere of urgency generated by the unremitting stress of the cold war and the emergence of a fabulous new technology of violence. This technology took the traditional military problems of strategy and war out of the hands of the military and put them into the hands of civilian experts who previously had not applied their expertise to military affairs. Furthermore, since war came to be viewed as a self-defeating policy alternative, scholars and policy-makers were compelled to pay serious and systematic attention to the development of methods of conflict containment and conflict resolution.

Once the complexity of national security affairs became obvious, new institutions and modes of administration had to be introduced.¹ The establishment of the National Security Council and the Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs after World War II marked the beginning of governmental concern with the new field. The National Security Act of 1947 specifically talks of providing for "integrated policies and procedures for the departments, agencies and functions of the Government relating to the national se-

Only a few highlights of this institutional growth can be given here. For a fuller description, see Gene M. Lyons and Louis Morton, Schools for Strategy: Education and Research in National Security Affairs (New York 1965).

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